

To the Chairman and Members of the
Saddleworth Urban District Council.



Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1944, and wish to express my thanks to the officials of the Council for their assistance in compiling this report.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The general geography and physical condition of Saddleworth have been described in previous reports, and in this year of war will not again be described.

Area - 18,485 acres (1,555 acres formed the old Springhead Urban District). Included in the area is much enclosed moorland, which forms the gathering grounds of the many reservoirs of neighbouring large towns.

Population - 15,720
Number of inhabited houses - 5825
Rateable Value - £103461
Product of a Penny Rate - £395.

Chief Industries are woollen industries, calico printing, cotton industries, engineering, paper making, wall paper manufacture, and dairy farming.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

OF THE YEAR (1944).

	<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate		130	123
Illegitimate		7	7
Total live births		267	

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population - 17.0

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	3	4
Illegitimate	0	0

DEATHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Transferable (away)	78 39	92 30

Deaths - Saddleworth - 170. Total deaths - 239.
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population - 15.2
Death of Infants under 1 year of age - Males 6. Females - 10.
Death Rate of all Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births - 59.9.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF MORTALITY

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	0		
Measles	0		
Scarlet Fever	0		
Whooping Cough	0		
Diphtheria	0		
Influenza	1		
Encephalitis Lethargica	0		
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0		
(Tuberculosis of Respiratory System (Phthisis)	7		
(Other tubercular diseases	0		
Syphilitic Diseases	0		
Acute Polio-Myelitis and polio encephalitis	1		
<u>Cancer</u>			
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus	1	Male)
Cancer of Uterus	1	Female)
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	8	Males)
	3	Females) 37
Cancer of Breast	5	Females)
Cancer of all other sites	10	Males)
	9	Females)
<u>Diabetes</u>	1	Male)
	2	Females)
Cerebral Haemorrhage etc.	8	Males)
	24	Females)
Heart Disease	36	Males)
	40	Females) 112
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	Males)
	1	Female)
Bronchitis	6	Males)
	3	Females)
Pneumonia (all forms)	5	Males) 17
	3	Females)
Other Respiratory Diseases	0)
Peptic Ulcer	3	Males	
Diarrhoea, etc., (under 2 years)	1	Female	
Appendicitis	1	Male	
Other Digestive Diseases	1	Male)
	1	Female)
Nephritis (Acute and Chronic)	11	Males	
	9	Females	
Puerperal Sepsis	0		
Other Maternal Causes	1		
Premature Birth	0	Males)
	5	Females)
Infant Birth Injuries	3	Males	
	2	Females	
Suicide	0		
	0		
Other Violence	4	Males	
All other causes	11	Males)
	5	Females)
Road Traffic Accidents	3		
	<hr/>		
	239		
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SECTION B:

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

STAFF - PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health,

P. B. Wood, M.B.Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector,

H. W. Howell, Assoc. M.C.T., M.S.I.M.

Housing Inspector and Sewerage,

Bertram Castle, M.I.M.C.E. M.R.S.I.

Public Vaccinator,

John Loftus, M.B.

School Nurses,

Nurse Holroyd.

Nurse Hurst.

Sewage Works Manager,

C.R.C. Marsden, M.C.T. M.I.S.P.

District Nurses,

Nurse Stafford

Nurse Standring

Nurse Cook

Nurse Lyall

Nurse Tate.

Housing Manager,

George H. Booth.

Laboratory Facilities

These are provided by the County Council Laboratories at Wakefield, where pathological material is examined, free of charge, for suspected Diphtheria, Tuberculosis, Typhoid Fever, etc. Also the water and milk supplies are examined from time to time. There has been no change in these services as the result of the war. Arrangements have also been made with the Oldham Laboratory Board for the examination of Diphtheria swabs from the Council's area.

Ambulance Services

	Location of Ambulance
For General Purposes	Oldham Fire Station
Medical, Surgical Cases and Accidents	Mossley Fire Station
For General Infectious Disease Cases	Ambulances from various Fever Hospitals, At Ashton, Oldham, Hyde and Meltham.

Home Nursing

West Riding Nursing Association,	Leeds.
Dobcross and Delph	1 Nurse
Uppermill and Diggle	1 Nurse
Greenfield	1 Nurse
Springhead	1 Nurse)
	1 Midwife)
Lenshaw	No District Nurse.

Your Council allows an annual grant of £30 to each of the following Nursing Associations:

Dobcross and Delph Nursing Association.		
Uppermill and Diggle	"	"
Greenfield	"	"
Springhead	"	"

Payments varying between 2/6d to 4/- a year per family are charged for the services of the District Nurses.

Two nurses (employed by the West Riding County Council) attend the Pre-Natal and Child Welfare Centres at Uppermill, Delph, and Springhead. Springhead has a midwife who attends cases also in Denshaw. In Dobcross, Delph, Uppermill, Diggle, and Greenfield the District Nurses attend midwifery cases.

Child Welfare Clinics

Uppermill - Mechanics' Institute, Lee Street,	
Wednesday.	2 - 4 p.m.
Springhead - Congregational School	
Friday	2 - 4 p.m.
Delph - Independent Sunday School	
Tuesday	2 - 4 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics

Uppermill - Mechanics' Institute	
Fourth Thursday of month	9.30.a.m. to 11.30.a.m.
Springhead - Congregational School	
Second Monday of month	2 - 4 p.m.
Delph - Independent Sunday School	
Second Thursday of month	2 p.m.

Tuberculosis Dispensary

Court Street, Uppermill	
Thursday mornings	10.a.m. to 12 noon.

Hospitals: Public and Voluntary.

Infectious Fever Hospital.

Saddleworth has none of its own. Cases are sent to Hospitals of neighbouring authorities at our expense, but we have no definite legal arrangements with such authorities.

Infectious cases have been sent to Westhulme, Oldham, Ashton, Hyde, and Monsall (Manchester).

Small Pox Hospital

Saddleworth has an old house on the hillside at Runninghill, Diggle which has in the past served as such. It is inadequate, and it would be better to make arrangements for reception and treatment of cases with some other neighbouring authority.

General Hospitals

Medical and Surgical cases from here are sent to the Manchester Royal Infirmary.
Oldham Royal Infirmary.
Ashton Infirmary
and less frequently to the Salford Infirmary.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply

Obtained from the reservoirs of the Ashton Joint Board and Oldham Corporation. No new supplies of water were acquired during the year. The supply is continuous and has been satisfactory.

There are many houses which, by reason of their remote positions are not on the public supply. These obtain their water from springs and wells, and none of these has been closed during the year.

As the water supply is practically in all cases (both reservoirs and wells) obtained from the Millstone Grit Formation, it is soft on account of peat, but precautions have been taken against its lead-dissolving properties.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Areas still requiring sewerage are Diglee, Shaw Lee, Shaws, Higher Kinders, Tunstead, and are so situated that they could be connected to the public sewer.

Twenty-six inspections of new drainage and sewerage works carried out by private contractors, have been inspected and tested during the year. Regular inspection and flushing of the main sewerage system is carried out.

There have been no major extensions of the Sewerage system during the year.

Closet Accommodation.

Water Closets	4713
Waste Water Closets	622
Pail Closets	658
(Additional water closets to old buildings provided in 1944	18
Water Closets for new houses	Nil.

Public Cleansing

The Council employ nine men using three covered waggons for the removal of household refuse, and one special waggon for night-soil. House refuse is collected fortnightly, and trade refuse twice per week in most instances. Pail closets are emptied weekly.

The household refuse is disposed of by the controlled tipping system. The night-soil is now emptied into the sewer at the old Sewage Works' Site, Dobcross.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Camping Sites

There are two camping sites in the district - one at Wood Camping Ground at Denshaw, and the other at Summershades, Greenfield. The latter site is licensed by the Council for camping purposes.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No Council houses were infested. One house under private ownership was found to be infested. Successful disinfection was carried out.

Factories and Workshops.

Smoke Observations.

No action was taken in regard to smoke-abatement.

There are 70 factories and workshops in the area.

Inspection.

Visits were paid to the factories and workshops to note matters concerning cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, drainage of floors and sanitary conveniences.

Improvements in sanitary accommodation were made at five factories during the year.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

No plans were approved by the Council during the year for the erection of any houses, whether by themselves or by private enterprise.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

101 visits have been made to dairy farms during the year, and improvements to shippens and dairies have been made at several farms.

Ninety-four samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination. Sixteen of these were unsatisfactory.

There are twelve licenses in force for the production of Accredited Milk, and four for the production of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Meat and Other Foods.

As the result of inspection, 4 cwts, 3 qrs. 2½lbs. of fresh foodstuffs, and 106 tins of meat, fish, milk, etc., were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Slaughterhouses.

No slaughterhouses have been in use in the district during the year.

SECTION F.

PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	34	16	0
Diphtheria	11	10	0
Paratyphoid	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0
Pneumonia	12	0	8
Erysipelas	3	0	0
Whooping Cough	59	0	0
Measles	258	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	0	0	0
Typhoid Fever	1	1	0

Diphtheria Immunisation

The number of children who completed a full course of immunisation in the Authority's area between the 1st January and 31st December, 1944, is shown here with comparative figures for 1943.

	<u>1944</u>	<u>1943</u>
Age under 5 years	150	92
" 5 - 15 years	<u>66</u>	<u>106</u>
Total	<u>216</u>	<u>198</u>

The approximate estimated number of children in the Authority's Area at 31st December, 1944 was:

Under 5 years	1102
Between 5-15 years	1714

of these it is considered that 39.2% and 89.3% respectively have been immunised.

The corresponding percentages for the preceding year - 1943, were 35.9% and 85.3%. It would, therefore, appear that there has been some progress made in Diphtheria prophylaxis amongst the child population during the year.

Incidence of Diphtheria.

Old Saddleworth	1932-1933	9 cases notified	
	1934-1935	49	" "
	1936	11	" "
New Saddleworth	1937	15	" "
	1938	3	" "
	1939	No cases	
	1940	1	" "
	1941	6	" "
	1942	5	" "
	1943	8	" "
	1944	11	" "

There were no deaths from Diphtheria in the area during the year.

The Council has authorised the free provision of Diphtheria Anti-toxin for the use of Saddleworth residents, on the approval of the Medical Officer of Health.

New Cases of Tuberculosis during 1944.

Age Periods	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 - 1	0	0	0	0
1 - 5	0	0	0	0
5 - 15	0	0	1	4
15 - 25	2	0	0	0
25 - 35	1	2	0	2
35 - 45	0	0	0	2
45 - 55	1	0	0	0
55 - 65	0	2	0	0
65 and upwards	1	0	0	0

There were seven deaths from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System (Phthisis) and no deaths from other Tubercular Diseases during the year.

Cases of Tuberculosis in the district on the 31st December, 1944:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>	
<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
11	13	15	27

Scabies.

In view of the prevalence of Scabies in the Country generally, the First Aid Post, Uppermill, was opened on the 31st January, 1944, for the Out-Patient treatment of the disease. Owing to the closing down of the First Aid Post on the 28th October, the treatment at this centre had to be discontinued, and treatment of these cases is now carried out as formerly by the Medical Practitioners in the area. The incidence of Scabies in the District is on the decline and the present arrangements are adequate for dealing with cases as they arise.

The number of cases treated during the period 31st January to 28th October, 1944, was thirty-six.

In November a report was prepared and placed before the Health Committee of the Council, on the present state of the Sanitary Conditions in the Council's area: and a recommendation put forward for an increase in the Staff of the Department.

This report and recommendation are at present under consideration by the Council.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,
P.B.Wood.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR for the year 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District of Saddleworth.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1944.

Statement as to houses in the District and their Sanitary Accommodation

Number of houses	5825
Factories, workshops, Lock-up Shops, etc.	186
Pail Closets	658
Water Closets	4713
Waste Water Closets	622
Earth Closets	88
Ashpits (covered and open)	87
Ashbins	4450

Eighteen new Water Closets were erected to old property, and four Waste Water Closets converted to fresh water closets during the year.

Petroleum Licenses.

Twenty-eight Licenses for the storage of petroleum spirit, and one for the storage of Calcium Carbide were granted during the year.

Nuisance Inspections

Total number of Inspections made	842
Number of nuisances found requiring abatement.	370
Number of nuisances abated	304
Number of Informal Notices served	166
Number of Informal Notices complied with	148
Number of Statutory Notices served	5
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	3

Considerable difficulty was experienced in getting building and housing repair work carried out, due to shortage of labour and materials.

Water Supplies.

Eight premises previously supplied from private sources were connected to a main piped supply during the year.

Fifteen samples of water were taken during the year for bacteriological examination, and for plumbo solvency tests. Two samples were reported unsatisfactory.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

One hundred and one visits were made during the year to dairy farms, and improvements were carried out at several shippens and dairies in the district.

Ninety-four samples of milk were examined bacteriologically, and sixteen were reported 'not satisfactory

Twelve applications for licenses for milk production were granted during the year. One application for a licence to sell pasturised milk, and one application for a license to produce pasturised milk in the district were granted.

There were twelve licences in force for the production of Accredited Milk, and four for the production of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Factories.

Twenty-one inspections of factory premises were made during the year. Four Informal Notices were served, and three complied with.

Slaughterhouses.

Since the closure of the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse at Dobra Cross in July, 1943, there has been no slaughtering carried out in the district.

Food Inspection.

During the year forty-six visits were made in connection with Food Inspection, and the following Food Stuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption:-

89½	lbs	beef
163	"	pork
76	"	veal
17½	"	bacon
101½	"	fish
23½	"	butter & margarine
20½	"	sugar
43	"	fruit and vegetables
38		eggs
106		tins of meat, fish, milk, etc.

Salvage of Waste Materials.

The Council employ three men on salvage work at the Walk Mill Tip, Dobcross, where three paper-baling machines and one tin-baling machine are in use.

The following Tables show the weights and values of salvage sold during the year:-

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£.	s.	d.
Paper	118.	16.	2.	0	727.	4.	6.
Tins	67.	4.	1.	0	95.	10.	6.
Ferrous scrap	15.	16.	2.	0	28.	6.	3.
Non-ferrous scrap		8.	0.	12	9.	14.	7.
Bottles and glass	24.	4.	1.	0	39.	19.	4.
Textiles	12.	14.	0.	4.	132.	3.	10.
Bones	1.	13.	0.	18.	7.	17.	5.
Rubber	1.	4.	0.	0.	3.	10.	0.
Totals	242.	0.	3.	6.	£1044.	6.	5.

Comparative totals for the year 1943:-

T.259.11. 0.24.	£1106.11. 0.
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It will be seen from these figures that salvage income for the year has been maintained at a fairly high level. Two special efforts were made during the year to increase the amount of salvage collected - one being a salvage drive held during the month of April; and the other a book drive resulting in a total of 4,671 books being collected. Of these, 1851 were sent as reading matter to Members of His Majesty's Forces, and the remainder used for salvage.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. A. Howell, Assoc.M.C.T., L.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector.